IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for processing a database query on a set of data stored on a plurality of data pages in a database management system, the method comprising the steps of:

a)   utilizing a query processor to call a data manager and request the return of data from the set of data;

b)   allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data on a stabilized data page and make a determination regarding the query-specified data;

c)   utilizing the data manager to write the query-specified data on the stabilized data page to a buffer based on the determination while maintaining the stabilization of the data page; and

d)   utilizing the query processor to retrieve the query-specified data from the buffer.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the determination involves determining whether the query-specified data is to be ignored, consumed, or returned to the query processor.

3. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein the determination is that the query-specified data is to be returned to the query processor.

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the set of data is stored on a plurality of pages and step b) further comprises:

b1)   locating a page containing query-specified data;

b2)   stabilizing the page; and

b3)   accessing the page.

5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein step c) further comprises:

c1)   maintaining the stabilization of the page, while the data manager writes all the query-specified data on the page to the buffer.

6. (currently amended) A system for processing a database query on a set of data ~~stored on a plurality of data pages~~ in a database management system, the system comprising:

a data manager;

a query processor comprising means to call the data manager and request the return of data from the set of data;

means for allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data ~~on a stabilized data page~~ and make a determination regarding the query-specified data;

means for utilizing the data manager to write the query-specified data ~~on the stabilized data page~~ to a buffer based on the determination ~~while maintaining the stabilization of the data page~~; and

means for utilizing the query processor to retrieve the query-specified data from the buffer.

7. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the determination involves determining whether the query-specified data is to be ignored, consumed, or returned to the query processor.

8. (original) The system of claim 7 wherein the determination is that the query-specified

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data is to be returned to the query processor.

9. (original) The system of claim 8 wherein the set of data is stored on a plurality of pages and the means for allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data further comprises:

means for locating a page containing query-specified data;

means for stabilizing the page; and

means for accessing the page.

10. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein the means for utilizing the data manager to write the query-specified data to a buffer further comprises:

means for maintaining the stabilization of the page, while the data manager writes all the query-specified data on the page to the buffer.

11. (currently amended) A computer readable medium containing program instructions for processing a database query on a set of data stored on a plurality of data pages in a database management system, the program instructions comprising the steps of:

a)   utilizing a query processor to call a data manager and request the return of data from the set of data;

b)   allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data on a stabilized data page and make a determination regarding the query-specified data;

c)   utilizing the data manager to write the query-specified data on the stabilized data page to a buffer based on the determination while maintaining the stabilization of the data page;

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and

d)   utilizing the query processor to retrieve the query-specified data from the buffer.

12. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 11 wherein the determination involves determining whether the query-specified data is to be ignored, consumed, or returned to the query processor.

13. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 12 wherein the determination is that the query-specified data is to be returned to the query processor.

14. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 13 wherein the set of data is stored on a plurality of pages and step b) further comprises:

b1)   locating a page containing query-specified data;

b2)   stabilizing the page; and

b3)   accessing the page.

15. (original) The computer readable medium of claim 14 wherein step c) further comprises:

c1)   maintaining the stabilization of the page, while the data manager writes all the query-specified data on the page to the buffer.

16. (new) A method for processing a database query on a set of data stored on a plurality of data pages in a database management system, the method comprising the steps of:

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a)   utilizing a query processor to call a data manager and request the return of data from the set of data;

b)   allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data by:

   b1)   locating a data page containing query-specified data;

   b2)   stabilizing the data page; and

   b3)   accessing the data page;

c)   utilizing the data manager to make a determination regarding the query-specified data and to write the query-specified data on the stabilized data page to a buffer based on the determination while maintaining the stabilization of the data page; and

d)   utilizing the query processor to retrieve the query-specified data from the buffer.

17. (new) A system for processing a database query on a set of data stored on a plurality of data pages in a database management system, the system comprising:

a data manager;

a query processor comprising means to call the data manager and request the return of data from the set of data;

means for allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data comprising means for locating a data page containing query-specified data, means for stabilizing the data page, and means for accessing the data page;

means for utilizing the data manager to make a determination regarding the query-specified data and to write the query-specified data on the stabilized data page to a buffer based on the determination while maintaining the stabilization of the data page; and

means for utilizing the query processor to retrieve the query-specified data from the

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buffer.

18. (new) A computer readable medium containing program instructions for processing a
database query on a set of data stored on a plurality of data pages in a database management
system, the program instructions comprising the steps of:

a)   utilizing a query processor to call a data manager and request the return of data
from the set of data;

b)   allowing the data manager to locate query-specified data by:

b1)   locating a data page containing query-specified data;

b2)   stabilizing the data page; and

b3)   accessing the data page;

c)   utilizing the data manager to make a determination regarding the query-specified
data and to write the query-specified data on the stabilized data page to a buffer based on the
determination while maintaining the stabilization of the data page; and

d)   utilizing the query processor to retrieve the query-specified data from the buffer.

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